

INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY COURSE PLAN

TEACHER: Ms. Gorney

EMAIL: agorney@vcs.k12.nc.us

WEBSITE: <http://nvhsintrobiogorney1.wikispaces.com>

OFFICE HOURS: Tues and Wed: 3:15 – 4:00 pm

PHONE: 252-492-6041 ext. 6038

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Biology, the study of living things, is a broad and diverse subject. Introduction to Biology covers background information and critical vocabulary necessary for the understanding of facts and processes in our living world. To ensure success, Introduction to Biology is an essential first step to the study of Biology.

CURRICULUM: The entire Biology curriculum, consisting of five main goals, follows the N.C. Standard Course of Study. Introduction to Biology will focus on the goals that are traditionally the most difficult. This course will give you the insight and knowledge needed in your Biology class next semester.

GOALS from the NC Standard Course of Study:

Learners will develop:

1. Abilities necessary to do and understand scientific inquiry,
2. An understanding of the physical, chemical, and cellular basis of life,
3. An understanding of the continuity of life and the changes of organisms over time, and
4. An understanding of the unity and diversity of life.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: (**non-negotiable*)

1. Laptop*
2. A 3-Ring binder (1" or more) with loose-leaf paper*
3. Pencils*
4. Pens (Blue/black for test/daily work)*
5. Colored pencils or crayons*
6. Manual pencil sharpener
7. 1 Pack of index cards

TEACHER POLICIES:

1. Follow all class rules (see poster in classroom) and respect others and their property. This includes the teacher's desk and other materials.
2. CLASS TIME IS **ESSENTIAL**! The school tardy policy will be enforced.
3. No cosmetics, scented lotions, fingernail polish, or combing hair in the classroom.
4. Foul / Negative language will not be tolerated.
5. Make-up work is the **STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY**! If a student is absent on a day of an announced test, lab, project, or video the student is expected to make up the work on the day he/she returns to class! All other make up work must be completed **no later than 5 days** or a grade of 0 will be given.
6. Students must be silent during tests and quizzes.
7. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated- students will receive a zero for assignments/quizzes/ tests that violate this policy.
8. No eating or drinking in class.
9. Sit in your assigned seat, remain on task, and remain alert with heads off the table.
10. Participate in class discussions and be respectful of the opinions of others. DO NOT TALK WHILE ANOTHER STUDENT OR THE TEACHER IS SPEAKING. NO JUDGMENTAL STATEMENTS OR BEHAVIORS.
11. All school policies will be observed and enforced. NO CELL PHONES OR OTHER ELECTRONICS!!
12. Be sure your table is clean and materials put away BEFORE you leave.

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:

1. Participate in all class activities.
2. Keep all papers and handouts in a Biology binder and bring required materials to class EVERYDAY.
3. Title and date all papers and write neatly.
4. Complete all assignments and turn in on time to receive full credit.
5. Take quizzes, tests and final exams.

DAILY CLASS PROCEDURES:

1. Bring your binder, laptop, paper, and pen/pencil to class everyday.
2. Turn in your homework and get any needed materials **before the tardy bell rings**.
3. Look at the board for any announcements.
4. Look at the board for the Warm-Up and begin working silently and independently.
5. If you come to class late, go to the media center and get a tardy pass. When you return to class, quietly take your seat and begin working. There is no need to “make an entrance.”
6. I dismiss the class, NOT the bell.

Violation of the above policies and procedures will result in the following:

1. Verbal warning/warning note
2. Discussion with the teacher (by discretion)
3. Change seats as directed by the teacher
4. Detention and Parent contact
5. Referral to office

In addition, the following procedure will be followed if a student chooses to bring electronic devices to class:

1. Verbal warning
2. Referral to administrator: Additionally the student will either give the teacher the device for the class period or spend the rest of class in detention (OLC).

POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES:

If you choose to follow the expectations, participate in class, work hard, or display excellent behavior and academic achievement, your actions will be rewarded. Positive consequences include:

1. Knowledge and Power!
2. Verbal /sticky note praise.
3. A good grade for weekly Class Work and/or On-Task Grade.
4. Raffle Tickets for bimonthly Prizes!
5. Student of the Week!

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

1. Tests, quizzes, and projects count 50% of the six weeks grade. Class work, labs, warm-ups, on-task grades, etc. count 50% of the six weeks grade.
2. Unit or Objective tests will be given at the end of each NC Objective. The final exam will count 25% of your **total** grade.
3. Midterm progress reports will go home and must be returned signed by the parent/guardian each 6 weeks grading period. When you return them within 5 school days you will receive a 100 as a daily grade and if you do not return it you will receive a 0.

PROJECTS:

1. Cell Organelle Project- 1st Six Weeks
2. Genetic Disease Project- 2nd Six Weeks
3. Plant and Animal Project- 3rd Six Weeks